

1999 at 9:30 a.m. to mark up pending legislation to be followed by a hearing on Indian Reservation Roads and the Transportation Equity Act in the 21st Century (TEA-21).

The hearing will be held in room 485, Russell Senate Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, The Committee on the Judiciary requests unanimous consent to conduct a hearing on Wednesday, October 20, 1999 at 9 a.m. in Dirksen Room 226.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON RATES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Rules and Administration be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 20, 1999 at 9:30 a.m. to conduct an oversight hearing on the operations of the Architect of the Capitol.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGING THREATS AND CAPABILITIES

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, October 20, 1999, in open session, to receive testimony on the efforts of the military services in implementing joint experimentation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER AND POWER

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Water and Power of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, October 20, for purposes of conducting a Water and Power Subcommittee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 2:30 p.m. The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 1167, a bill to amend the Pacific Northwest Power Planning and Conservation Act to provide for expanding the scope of the Independent Scientific Review Panel; S. 1694, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the reclamation and reuse of water and wastewater in the State of Hawaii; S. 1612, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain irrigation project property to certain irrigation and reclamation districts in the State of Nebraska; S. 1474, a bill providing conveyance of the Palmetto Band project to the State of Texas; S. 1697, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to refund certain collections received pursuant to the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982; S. 1178, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain parcels of land acquired for the Blunt Reservoir and Pierre Canal features of the

State of South Dakota for the purpose of mitigating lost wildlife habitat, on the condition that the current preferential leaseholders shall have an option to purchase from the Commission, and for other purposes; and S. 1723, a bill to establish a program to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to plan, design, and construct facilities to mitigate impacts associated with irrigation system water diversions by local governmental entities in the Pacific Ocean drainage of the States of Oregon, Washington, Montana, and Idaho.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

NATIONAL WOMEN'S BUSINESS WEEK

• Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of the tremendous economic contributions made by women business owners in Illinois and to recognize the work of the Women's Business Development Center, a woman's business training and technical assistance center that has assisted over 30,000 women in realizing their dreams of business ownership.

The newest statistics from the National Foundation for Women's Business Ownership confirm that women entrepreneurs now make up more than 38 percent of all business and continue to be the most dynamic, fastest growing sector of our Nation's economy. I am proud to tell you that there are now 384,700 women-owned businesses in Illinois, employing 1.5 million workers and generating \$195 billion in annual sales, a growth of 139 percent in 7 years.

Women business owners in Illinois area vibrant sector of our State economy and strong advocates for women's business ownership nationwide. Recently one of Illinois's own, Sheila G. Talton, president and CEO of Unisource Network Services, Inc., headquartered in Chicago, was appointed to serve on the National Women's Business Council. Unisource Network Services provides network interrogation consulting, including voice, data and multimedia consulting. Ms. Talton, who has 20 years of experience in the information systems and telecommunications field, formed the company in 1986 and sales are projected at \$17 million this fiscal year. The company services an elite class of Fortune 500 companies, major educational and health care institutions and public agencies.

Unisource Network Services exemplifies the type of high-growth business that is attractive to investors in Illinois and around the country. In fact, Ms. Talton financed the growth of her technology company with venture capital investments. Unfortunately her story is usual; I'm told that most women entrepreneurs are having difficulties raising the capital they need to take their technology-based compa-

nies to the next level. Though women are starting high-growth business at unprecedented rates, they currently access less than 5 percent of all venture capital investments.

Mr. President, the strength of the economy of Illinois and the Nation depends upon the success of enterprises like Unisource. The opportunities to launch and grow businesses and the demand for training and capital have never been greater. In order for these new businesses to flourish, we must ensure that their access to capital and markets is unimpeded and that they have information and resources they need to compete at the speed of the Internet.●

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL WOMEN'S BUSINESS WEEK

• Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of "National Women's Business Week" and of the vital role women business-owners play in our economy.

I would also like to recognize the appointment of Vivian L. Shimoyama to the National Women's Business Council. Ms. Shimoyama is the Founder and President of Breakthru Unlimited, a California company that designs and manufactures projects with a message: hand-made glass artwork of jewelry, executive gifts, limited editions, and custom awards. A brilliant sample of her work is her "Breaking the Ceiling" line of jewelry that has adorned the lapels of Hillary Clinton and Elizabeth Dole. Currently, she serves as the Chair of the National Association of Women Business Owners—Los Angeles. In 1999, she was honored as the Small Business Administration's "Women Business Advocate of the Year".

Ms. Shimoyama runs one of the 1.2 million women-owned businesses headquartered in California. According to a study by the National Foundation for Women Business Owners (NFWBO), these businesses employ 3.8 million workers and generate \$548 billion in annual sales, a growth of 164 percent in seven years.

Without a doubt, women entrepreneurs have played a crucial part in the growth of our economy. NFWBO reports that between 1987 and 1999, the number of women-owned firms increased by 103 percent nationwide, employment increased by 320 percent, and sales increased by 436 percent. As of 1999, there are 9.1 million women-owned businesses in the U.S., which employ 27.5 million people and generate over \$3.6 trillion in sales. To put the sales of these businesses into context, they are twice the size of the Federal budget, and greater than the Gross National Product of every country in the world but the United States and Japan.

An increasing number of these businesses have focused on emerging industries such as high technology. These businesses demand a greater access to capital and information resources than ever before.